

In the claims:

1-46. (Canceled)

47. (Previously added) A method of inhibiting appetite, or the gain of weight, in a subject comprising:

identifying a subject in need of inhibiting appetite or weight gain; and
administering an effective amount of an antagonist of melanocyte concentrating hormone (MCH) to said subject, wherein the antagonist binds an MCH receptor.

48. (Previously added) The method of claim 47, wherein the antagonist binds competitively to an MCH receptor.

49. (Previously added) The method of claim 47, wherein the antagonist binds non-competitively to an MCH receptor.

50-60. (Withdrawn)

61. (Previously added) The method of claim 47, wherein the antagonist is a non-polypeptide drug or chemical.

62. (Previously added) The method of claim 61, wherein the antagonist binds competitively with MCH.

63. (Previously added) The method of claim 61, wherein the antagonist binds non-competitively with MCH.